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2430 E Street, N. W.

25X1A

24 July 1947

Foreign Broadcast Information Service  
London Bureau  
31 Davies Street  
London W.1, England

Dear Russ:

25X1A

The Director received his first message from General Sibert relative [redacted] proposal yesterday. General Sibert's message stated that our proposal was approved in principle provided CIG would agree to bear the cost of construction, which was estimated by SCAP engineers to be approximately \$250,000. General Sibert recommended that CIG agree to this since he believed that post occupation arrangements would not be difficult [redacted] and that if we were required to liquidate our holdings, we could do so at not too great a loss. However, this was not concurred in by the Director's office, and a return message was dispatched to General Sibert stating in effect that since full interdepartmental (IAB) use would be made of our station it was felt that the cost of construction should be borne by reparations.

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The Director advised General Sibert to investigate further the possibility of utilizing military supplies, etc. [redacted] to reduce to an absolute minimum the cost of implementing this project, and stated that if such an arrangement were impossible, it would be necessary for us to look to [redacted] for a place at which to locate our station.

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It does not make sense to me that we should have to pay \$250,000 for this station when all other U. S. government projects seem to be paid for out of reparations costs. Furthermore, it has been my understanding from [redacted] letters that the shortage of construction materials and supplies rather than the cost in dollars was the reason why our project might be disapproved. I had felt that General MacArthur's headquarters merely wanted some assurance from a high authority that we felt this project to be really necessary, and that they might ask us to defray the cost just to satisfy themselves that the Director of CIG was really enthusiastic. However, perhaps this is not the case, since General Sibert has, so far, not been able to swing the deal.

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I feel sure that there will be some other messages back and forth on this project and that this is not the final answer. I will keep you advised of any further developments.

Sincerely,

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Document No.	77
No Change in Class.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Declassified	
Class. Changed to:	TS S <i>089</i>
Next Review Date:	
Auth:	HR 70-3
Date:	<i>31 May 79</i>
By:	<i>025852</i>

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